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ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FIRST FOUR MEETINGS OF STATES PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Gilberto B. ASUQUE (Philippines)

1. The Second Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea held in New York from 15 to 19 May 1995, appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following nine members: Cameroon, Croatia, Germany, Malta, Marshall Islands, Philippines, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

2. The Credentials Committee held two meetings, on 6 and 7 March 1996 respectively.

3. At the first meeting of the Committee, on 6 March, Mr. Gilberto B. Asuque (Philippines) was elected Chairman of the Committee by acclamation.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretariat dated 6 March 1996, as well as the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the two meetings, on the status of credentials of representatives to the first four Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum by the Secretariat, for the first three Meetings held in New York - on 21 and 22 November 1994 and from 15 to 19 May, and 27 November to 1 December 1995 respectively - formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by another competent authority had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following States Parties: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Fiji, Germany,

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Grenada, Iceland, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

6. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum by the Secretariat, for the first three Meetings of States Parties, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in those Meetings has been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following States participating in those Meetings: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Italy, Mali, Nigeria, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Yemen and Zambia.

7. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum by the Secretariat and as supplemented by the additional information obtained as of 7 March 1996, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by another competent authority have been submitted for the representatives of the following States participating in the fourth Meeting of States Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Fiji, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Senegal and Slovenia.

8. As noted in paragraph 4 of the memorandum by the Secretariat and as supplemented by the additional information obtained as of 7 March 1996, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the fourth Meeting of States Parties has been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following States participating in that Meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Lebanon, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Yemen, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

9. The Chairman proposed that the Committee accept the credentials of all representatives mentioned in the memorandum of the Secretariat, supplemented by the additional information, on the understanding that formal credentials of representatives referred to in paragraph 4 of the Secretariat's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The following draft resolution was proposed by the Chairman for adoption by the Committee:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the first four Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 of the memorandum of the

Secretariat dated 6 March 1996, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the two meetings of the Committee,

"Accepts the credentials of the representatives concerned."

10. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

11. Subsequently, the Chairman proposed that the Committee recommend to the Meeting of States Parties the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the first four Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"The Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

12. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

13. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the first four Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"The Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."